all the States/UTs have also been addressed recently for following up on implementation of various provisions of the PNDT Act.

Workshops/Seminars are being organised at State/district level, to create awareness about the provisions of the Act. Voluntary Organisations are also being involved to carry out projects regarding creating awareness about the provisions of the Act. Grant-in-aid has also been released to NGOs to conduct seminars and workshops and other Information, Education and Communication *(TEC)* activities in certain States.

National Level Non-Governmental Organisations have been requested to take up projects for generating awareness about the provisions of the Act, among doctors/clinics/law enforcing authorities and public at large. The co-operation of the NGOs has also been requested in listing and enumerating within their jurisdiction, the name and address of premises where the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) is being performed, with a view to detect registered/unregistered clinics.

Recently, Supreme Court has issued certain directions to both the Central and State Governments for effective implementation of the provisions of the PNDT Act. The directions include among other things wide publicity both at national and state levels for generating awareness about the Act.

Purchase of Doopan Samagri as an Ayurvedic Medicine

2920. SHRI BACHANILEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of ISM and H had purchased Doopan Samagri as an Ayurvedic medicine/drug for supplying the same in Surat during plague epidemic a few years ago;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the category/rule/order etc. under which Doopan Samagri has been considered as an Ayurvedic medicine/drug for the purpose;

(c) whether quotations/tenders were invited for its purchase;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of its quantity and price at which it was purchased alongwith the name of the company?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House

Posting of MS in CGHS Ayurvedic Hospital, Aliganj

2921. SHRI BACHANILEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) me average number of patients visited CGHS Ayurvedic Hospital, Aliganj, New Delhi, bom indoor/OPD from January, 1999 to May, 1999 and June, 1999 to June, 2001;

(b) whether there has been a decline in the number of patients since June, 1999;

(c) whether this decline is due to lack of administration and absence of full-time MS in the above hospital;

(d) if so, why senior most CMO in Ayurvedic system was not posted for officiating as MS there; and

(e) whether Government propose to post the senior most CMO as officiating MS in the hospital for its better functioning?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) The requisite information is given in Statement *(See* below).

(b) Variations in the attendance of patients depends upon disease pattern prevalent in a particular year.

(c) In view of (b) above, the question does not arise.

(d) and (e) As an interim arrangement, Advisor (Ayurveda) who is the senior most officer in the cadre has been given the additional charge of the post of Medical Superintendent of Sushrut Ayurvedic Hospital as there is no officer available who has the prescribed level of seniority for the post. A senior CMO is however looking after the day to day functioning of the hospital.